

To the Members of the California State Senate:

This bill allows the City of Palm Springs to circumvent state law that requires cities to seek the approval of their voters prior to selling a public utility. The requirement for a vote on the sale of an asset is extremely important because the local taxpayers have invested significant tax dollars in the assets of the utility. The voters of Palm Spring previously rejected the sale of their wastewater plant to a private company and deserve the chance to decide whether selling this asset to the Desert Water Agency makes sense.

For this reason I am returning Senate Bill 557 without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger